

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GEORGE 00445 012016Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-07 CIAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
 PRS-01 L-03 DODE-00 USIA-06 /054 W
 -----020545 097586 /15 L
R 011821Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4278
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 0445

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GY
SUBJECT: GOG DENIAL OF CIA PAYMENTS TO BURNHAM

REF: (A) GEORGETOWN 0421, (B) HEAVNER/BALCKEN TELCON
 FEB. 26, (C) STATE 44688

1. I REGRET THAT IN ATTEMPTING TO REPORT ONE ASPECT OF A LONG AND COMPLICATED EXCHANGE WITH WILLS IN REF A, I FAILED TO MAKE CLEAR TO DEPARTMENT THAT MY RESPONSES TO WILLS ON THE PHRASEOLOGY OF THE DRAFT PRESS RELEASE AND THE QUESTION OF WHETHER ONE SHOULD BE ISSUED AT ALL WERE DISTINCTLY DIFFERENT MATTERS. WILLS UNDERSTOOD THAT MY OBJECTIONS PERTAINED ONLY TO THE PHRASEOLOGY OF THE DRAFT RELEASE. CONCERNING THAT, I GAVE HIM, FORCEFULLY AND CANDIDLY, MY OPINION THAT IT CONTAINED INSINUATIONS THAT THE USG, OR SOME AGENCY OF THE USG, WAS BEHIND LEAKS OF THE BURNHAM/CIA STORY AND THAT THE LANGUAGE WOULD NOT HELP IMPROVE US-GOG RELATIONS.

2. WHEN, IN RESPONSE TO WILLS' QUESTIONS, I GIVE AN OPINION ABOUT SOMETHING THAT DOES NOT DIRECTLY AFFECT USG INTERESTS, OR IS WITHIN THE REALM OF GOG DECISION-MAKERS, THE OPINION IS CAREFULLY SURROUNDED BY CAVEATS TO PROTECT MYSELF AND THE USG. I BELIEVE HOWEVER, THAT IT WOULD BE UNWISE FOR ME TO AVOID GIVING OPINIONS TO WILLS WHEN ASKED FOR MY OPINION. GIVEN
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HIS HIGHLY PERSONALISTIC APPROACH TO PEOPLE, DEMURRALS WOULD SOON ENGENDER HIS DISINTEREST AND PROBABLY HIS DISTRUST. DEPARTMENT MAY REST ASSURED, HOWEVER, THAT I AM EXTREMELY CAREFUL NOT TO INVOLVE USG IN GUYANESE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS OR OTHERWISE MAKE THIS EMBASSY OR USG VULNERABLE TO ACCUSATIONS OF IMPROPER ACTIONS VIS-A-VIS THE GUYANESE.

BLACKEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, GY, US, CIA, (BURNHAM, L F S)
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